GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1621
ANSWERED ON:08.03.2016
Onion Production
Reddy Shri Ch. Malla

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the production of onion during each of the last three years and the current year in the country, State/UT-wise;

(b) the domestic demand and supply of onions during the said period;

(c) the quantity and value of onion procured by the National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India (NAFED) and other agencies directly from farmers during the said period;

(d) whether the Government has banned export of onion so as to ensure adequate availability of onion for domestic consumption; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government to arrest the trend of fall in price of onion in some States?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

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(a): The details of the production of onion during each of the last three years and the current year in the country, State/UT-wise are at Annexure-I.

(b): The details of domestic demand and supply of onion during the last three years and the current year are at Annexure-II.

(c): In the current year 2015-16, the National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India (NAFED) and Small Farmers' Agri Business Consortium (SFAC) together procured 6011 MT of onion at a total cost of Rs.13.76 crore. The procurement was done from Farmer Producer Organisation (FPOs)' Mandis and farmers.

(d): No, Madam.

Continueâ€¦.2/-

(e): The steps taken by the government to arrest the trend of fall in prices of onion are as under:-

â€¢ Assistance is provided for development of infrastructure for post harvest management and marketing such as storages, Wholesale Markets, Rural Primary Market, Kisan Mandies, etc.

â€¢ Facilitating direct marketing, contract farming, setting up of private markets, farmer consumer markets and e-markets.

â€¢ Implementing Market Intervention Scheme (MIS) for procurement of agricultural and horticultural commodities including onion, under which losses, if any, are shared between the Central Government and the State Government concerned on 50:50 basis.

â€¢ Providing market information to farmers on prices and arrivals of agricultural commodities in regulated markets on AGMARKNET portal to enable the farmers to get better remunerative prices.

â€¢ Export of onion is free, subject to a Minimum Export Price (MEP) announced by the Government from time to time. To boost exports, recently a new scheme has been launched namely "Merchandize Exports from India (MEIS)" under Foreign Trade Policy 2015-20, wherein the exporters/farmers are incentivized for export of their goods/products including onion and grapes to specified markets.